



## Safety in St. Louis

Volume 1, Issue 2  
Spring 2004

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## SLU Offers OSHA Courses

**L**ooking for "official" OSHA courses, but don't want to travel to Chicago or Kansas City? The Midwest OSHA Education Centers (MOEC), with a campus at Saint Louis University, may be just what you need.

MOEC is a partnership between Saint Louis University School of Public

Health, Kirkwood Community College of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and the National Safety Council, Greater Omaha Chapter. This partnership of programs provides a broad network of training resources that enables MOEC to offer premium quality training and educational services.

The Saint Louis University site offers a variety of classes, from OSHA

10-hour and 30-hour courses for general industry and construction, to train-the-trainer courses and more! Continuing Education Units (CEU's) are available for all OTI education center courses.

For more information on the Saint Louis University OSHA Education Center, call 314-977-4093 or visit <http://ceet.slu.edu>.

## Feds Address Safety of Teen Workers

**I**s your company planning to hire teenagers this summer? Or do you have a working teen in your family? Did you know that while working teenagers can earn extra money and gain valuable experience, many risk being seriously or even fatally injured on the job?

Eighty percent of U.S. teenagers work during their high school years. In 2001, 45,000 teens were injured at work, and 175 died as a result

of an on-the-job injury. To address this challenge, numerous federal agencies, collectively known as the Federal Network for Young Worker Safety and Health, have joined together to educate teens, their parents, counselors and employers on how young people can stay safe on the job.

The website [www.osha.gov/SLTC/youth/summerjobs/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/youth/summerjobs/index.html) provides teen workers with safety and health materials in English and Spanish. Topics covered

include safe driving, lawn care, life guarding, farm work, construction, parks and recreation and restaurants.

"This new resource will help teen-agers get the information necessary to keep them safe on the job," said OSHA Administrator John Henshaw. "By providing practical information on a wide range of work activities, we can help ensure that young people have safe and healthy work experiences."

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## New VPP Programs Offered

OSHA has announced two new pilot programs within the Voluntary Protection Programs-- *OSHA Challenge* and *VPP Corporate*. These new programs will promote the safety and health of thousands more workers across the nation.

"We want to continually improve OSHA's cooperative programs and provide opportunities for more employers and employees who want to work with OSHA to create safer and healthier workplaces," said OSHA Administrator John Henshaw. "Encouraging many more facilities to continuously improve safety and health is the most effective way to assure compliance and further reductions in injuries, illnesses and fatalities."

Fifteen companies, associations, and a federal agency will participate in the pilots based on their commitment to improve workplace safety and health programs. OSHA will evaluate both pilots after the first year.

*OSHA Challenge* is designed to reach employers in all industry groups who are committed to improving their safety and health management systems and want to pursue recognition for their improvements. Open to private or public-sector employees, Challenge provides a roadmap to improve performance and ultimately to VPP Merit or Star. The Challenge program outlines the requirements

needed to develop and implement effective safety and health management systems through incremental steps. A number of companies and associations have stepped forward as Challenge Administrators to work with employers as they move through the steps of the Challenge program. Charter Administrators are Associated



**St. Louis Area VPP Sites**  
 Astaris-Carondelet Plant  
 CF industries-St. Louis  
 G P Gypsum-Cuba, Mo  
 Monsanto-Matthews, Mo  
 Solutia-Queeney Plant  
 Solutia-West Port

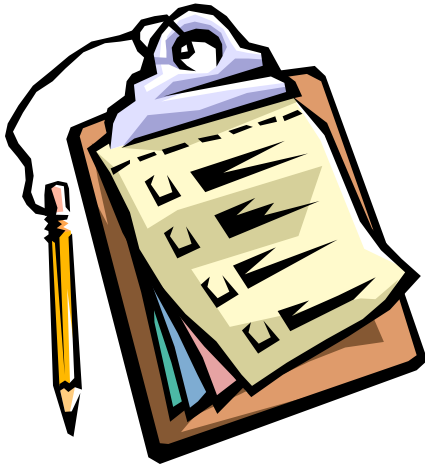
Builders and Contractors, The Associated General Contractors of America, Black & Veatch, Construction Safety Council, Curtis Lumber Company, Independent Electrical Contractors, NEA-The Association of Union Constructors, and Voluntary Protection Programs Participants' Association.

*VPP Corporate* is designed to eliminate barriers faced by some corporations who want to implement VPP company-wide. To participate, corporations agree to strive for corporate-wide VPP implementation and to support the programs through mentoring and outreach activities. Streamlined application and onsite evaluation processes are used to facilitate implementation. Charter Participants are Dow Chemical Company, General Electric Company, Georgia Pacific Corporation, International Paper, Johnson & Johnson, Maytag Corporation, and United States Postal Service.

The Voluntary Protection Programs promote effective worksite-based safety and health. VPP worksites save millions each year because their injury and illness rates are more than 50 percent below the averages for their industries. Approval into VPP is OSHA's official recognition of the outstanding efforts of employers and employees who have implemented exemplary safety and health management systems.

More information on VPP can be found at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov) or [www.vppa.org](http://www.vppa.org), or from Matt Gaines of the OSHA Regional Office at 816-426-5230 x247 or Mike Minicky of the St. Louis Area Office at 314-425-4255 x250.

## Most Frequently Cited Standards



### GENERAL INDUSTRY

1910.212 (a)(1)	<i>Machine Guarding</i>
1910.305 (b)(1)	<i>Conductors Entering Boxes, Cabinets, or Fittings</i>
1910.147 (c)(1)	<i>Energy Control Program</i>
1910.242 (b)	<i>Compressed Air Used for Cleaning</i>
1910.303 (b)(2)	<i>Installation and Use of Electrical Equipment</i>
1910.147 (c)(4)(ii)	<i>Energy Control Procedure</i>
1910.147 (c)(6)(i)	<i>Periodic Inspection of Energy Control Procedures</i>
1910.151 (c)	<i>Medical Services and First Aid</i>
1910.215 (b)(9)	<i>Guarding of Abrasive Wheel Machinery</i>
1910.304 (f)(4)	<i>Permanent and Continuous Grounding</i>

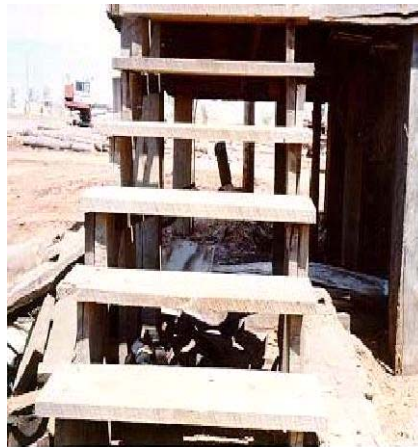
### CONSTRUCTION

1926.453 (b)(2)(v)	<i>Fall Protection for Aerial Lifts</i>
1926.100 (a)	<i>Head Protection</i>
1926.501 (b)(13)	<i>Fall Protection for Residential Construction</i>
1926.451 (e)(1)	<i>Scaffold Access</i>
1926.451 (f)(7)	<i>Competent Person Requirement for Scaffolds</i>
1926.1053 (b)(1)	<i>Use of Portable Ladders</i>
1926.501 (b)(1)	<i>Fall Protection for Unprotected Sides and Edges</i>
1926.502 (b)(2)	<i>Guardrail Systems</i>
1926.451 (g)(4)(i)	<i>Guardrail Systems for Scaffolds</i>
1926.102 (a)(1)	<i>Eye and Face Protection</i>

## Spot the Hazard



1



2

### ANSWERS (AS A MINIMUM!):

- 1. 1910.451(c)(2)**  
Supported scaffold poles, legs, posts, frames, and uprights shall bear on base plates and mud sills or other adequate firm foundation.
- 2. 1926.1052 (c)(1)(i)**  
Stairways having four or more risers or rising more than 30 inches (76 cm), whichever is less, shall be equipped with at least one handrail.

## Anatomy of An Accident

**I**t was a clear, early September morning with the temperature hovering around 68°F. An employee, in his 20's, was finishing vinyl siding work on a single-story shed in a rural area. The shed was serviced with electricity from feeder lines off of the main, 7200 volt lines which were approximately 16 ½ feet and 19 ½ feet overhead.

The employee was working alone. Although non-metal, shorter ladders were available, the employee grabbed a 20-foot aluminum ladder and began carrying the ladder from his truck to the small building. The ladder impacted the overhead power lines and the employee was killed instantly. A passerby noticed the ensuing fire and called police. The victim lay motionless as police and fire department officials looked on helplessly. The power lines were still live, and

they could only watch the young man's body burn.

This horrible scene is from an actual OSHA investigation. At the time, the employer had only 10 employees. Obviously, the dangers of electricity do not discriminate between large and small employers, urban and rural areas, or the age of the employee.

In this case the employer was cited for several violations of OSHA standards. Among the violations were:

1926.416(a)(3): "Before work is begun the employer shall ascertain by inquiry or direct observation, or by instruments, whether any part of an energized electric power circuit, exposed or concealed, is so located that the performance of the work may bring any person, tool, or machine into physical or electrical contact with the electric power circuit. The employer shall post

and maintain proper warning signs where such a circuit exists. The employer shall advise employees of the location of such lines, the hazards involved, and the protective measures to be taken."

1926.1053(b)(12): "Ladders shall have nonconductive side-rails if they are used where the employee or the ladder could contact exposed energized electrical equipment..."

1926.1060(a)(1)(iii): "The employer shall ensure that each employee has been trained by a competent person in the proper construction, use, placement, and care in handling of all stairways and ladders."

Obviously, the citations issued in this case were only a small portion of the hardship felt by the employer as a result of this tragic incident.



*Felipe DeVora of the OSHA Directorate of Construction in Washington, DC addresses the audience at the AGC SafetyFest on May 27th. Mr. DeVora updated the audience on OSHA regulatory issues.*



## A Message From the Area Director

*by Bill McDonald, Area Director  
St. Louis Area Office*

**W**elcome to the second edition of *Safety in St. Louis*. Each quarter we will be sending out this newsletter with you, our customers in mind, hoping to ensure information that is relevant to our community's needs is conveyed to all. I hope this newsletter is useful and helps to answer questions that are pertinent to all of the industries that fall under OSHA's jurisdiction.

OSHA has been evolving for over 30 years, and has been exploring new ways to meet the challenges of safety and health in today's society. Eliminating workplace fatalities, and reducing injuries and illnesses is paramount to our mission, and we must continue to strive to find innovative approaches to accomplish this goal. At the forefront of change is our desire to enlist our customers in this worthwhile endeavor. That is one of the driving reasons that OSHA has employed Compliance Assistance Specialists whose sole responsibility

is to provide support and information to our business community.

Another tool that has been employed and appears to be beneficial is the advent of Alliances and Partnerships. Here in St. Louis, we are taking every effort to include each individual and organization in the pursuit of this goal. We have active partnerships and alliances that have proven beneficial to both OSHA and the participating companies and organizations. But most of all, it is the worker who has benefited from these unique opportunities through a noticeable reduction of injuries under these partnerships. We are far from achieving our ultimate goals but with the spirit of our safety professionals in St. Louis, I know it will be accomplished.

As the leader of an enforcement agency, I know that even positive relationships can be strained through inspection activity, but I will continue to strive for a fair and meaningful dialogue with everyone in our community. I can promise one thing, each

interaction with our agency will be professional and should add value to your company's safety and health program. I would encourage everyone to utilize companies that have demonstrated a commitment to a strong and effective safety and health program that ensures all of us with a peace of mind that accidents can be prevented and everyone can go home safe and healthy.



## OSHA Partners

The following organizations are safety and health partners with the St. Louis Area Office. They are committed to adding the value of safety and health to their workplaces:

Abbey Care Center  
Associated General Contractors of St. Louis  
Associated Builders and Contractors-HOA Chapter

Astaris-Carondelet Plant  
Bellefontaine Gardens Nursing  
Bertrand Nursing Facility  
Carpenters' District Council  
CF Industries  
Clayco Construction Company  
Cornerstone Contracting  
Cuba Manor  
Eastern Missouri Laborers' District Council  
Ford Motor Company  
Grant Contracting Company

Greenville Health Care  
G-P Gypsum Cuba, Mo  
Health Systems, Inc.  
Heitkamp Masonry  
Hilcrest Care Center  
John J. Smith Masonry  
Kozeny-Wagner, Inc.  
Lincoln County Nursing  
L. Keeley Construction Co.  
Marvin Peebles Masonry  
Mason Contractors Association  
McCarthy Building Co.

Monsanto-Matthews, Mo  
Solutia-Queeney Plant  
Solutia-West Port  
Spencer Brickwork Inc.  
Pangea Group  
Potosi Manor  
Silex Community Care  
S.M. Wilson & Company  
St. Louis Building and Construction Trades Council  
Tarlton Corporation  
United Auto Workers

## Federal Safety Council Offers Training, Resources

The Greater St. Louis Federal Safety and Health Council (FSHC) is a local organization dedicated to promoting safety and health in the workplace. The FSHC primarily serves federal agencies in the area, but offers its programs and training to private-sector employers as well.

The council is supported by the local OSHA Area Office and is comprised of full-time and part-time federal safety personnel, labor representatives, and "associate" members, which includes private-sector and local government representatives. The council conducts monthly meetings on subjects of interest to safety and health professionals. Recent topics have included the latest in federal security technology, summer safety at

work, fireworks safety, and office ergonomics.

Additional training opportunities are offered as well. This year, the council has offered educational sessions on OSHA record-keeping requirements, Skywarn Level 1, and the OSHA 10-hour course for construction. All courses were offered free of charge, although priority enrollment is given to federal employees.

The Greater St. Louis Federal Safety and Health Council has been recognized as a leader in safety and health. For the past two years, the council has received the "Superior Achievement" award from the OSHA national office among councils serving the largest population. This

is the highest award possible.

The St. Louis FSHC has also received the OSHA Regional Administrator's "Federal Council of the Year" award (for OSHA Region VII) each of the past three years.

There is no charge for membership in the St. Louis FSHC. Priority enrollment is given to federal employees for courses and officers of the organization must be federal employees as well.

For more information on the Greater St. Louis Federal Safety and Health Council, contact Mike Minicky in the St. Louis Area OSHA Office at 314-425-4255 x250. The next meeting will be July 8<sup>th</sup>. Please call or e-mail for details. Hope to see you there!

### Safety and Health

### Add Value

*The St. Louis Area OSHA Office publishes the Safety In St. Louis Newsletter.*

*Readers are encouraged to submit suggestions or questions to:*

*Mike Minicky*

*Compliance Assistance Specialist*

*minicky.michael@dol.gov*

*This newsletter provides a generic, non-exhaustive overview of OSHA standards-related topics. This newsletter does not itself alter or determine compliance responsibilities, which are set forth in OSHA standards themselves and*

*the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. Additional safety measures may be required by your facility under certain conditions or circumstances. Professional advice should be sought for specific situations.*

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